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AUTOMOBILE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVES

MOTOR VEHICLES UP 150 PERCENT OVER 1937 -- Lidova Demokracie, No 225, 25 Sep 49

There are now 150 percent more motor vehicles than there were in 1937. This increase is noticeable not only in the case of motorcycles and passenger cars, but also in the case of trucks. Several new types of tractors help rapid mechanization of agriculture. Production of buses, with engines in the rear or beneath the body, is being prepared. The new buses will be lighter than the present buses of the same size. The present system of freight transportation will be simplified by the new construction of two-unit trucks, which will consist of a tractor of great efficiency and speed and a specially constructed trailer.

The CSAD (Czechoslovak Automobile Transport) supervises traffic of buses, cars, trucks, tractors, special vehicles, and trailers. The number of these vehicles is many times greater than the number of vehicles of the former automobile transport of the CSD (Czechoslovak State Railroads). The automobile park of the CSAD has been filled with hundreds of new cars in the past 3 years, so that traffic has become more economical and old, inefficient vehicles have been eliminated. There is a shortage of high-capacity trucks. There was a relatively significant shortage of motor fuels in 1947, and this shortage had not been entirely eliminated in 1948. After the Two-Year Plan, rubber tires, especially those of large sizes, were hard to get. In all, 162 new bus lines were established, so that this task was fulfilled 125.1 percent.

In 1947, there were 7,650 kilometers run by passenger and freight cars per employee in the automobile transport of the CSAD, whereas this figure for 1948 was increased to 8,650 kilometers, that is, raised by more than 13.2 percent. Several hundred new bus lines are to be established during the Five-Year Plan; of those 60 in Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia, and 40 in Slovakia will be in use by the end of 1949. The so-called regional or radial freight transportation system on highways will be established during the Five Year Plan.

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The CSAD will invest 800 million crowns in construction, chiefly for garages, automobiles workshops, and a modern, new bus station. General repair of buses and trucks will be taken care of by those state enterprises which produced the vehicles. At the end of 1948, 1,139 lines totaling 31,109 kilometers were used by the buses of the CSAD. On 30 June 1949, the buses were using 1,389 lines totaling 36,189 kilometers. Besides, there are 440 lines of nationalized enterprises under supervision of the CSAD. The number of buses has increased by 12.5 percent and the plan for the number of passengers carried has been increased by 38.7 percent.

YOUTH RAILROAD NEAR COMPLETION -- Svobodne Slovo, No 224, 24 Sep 49

The Slovak Youth Railroad between Hronska Dubrava and Banska Stiavnica is near completion. It will be completed by 28 October. Installation of the first rails at Hronska Dubrava was begun several days ago. Final work on the bridges and viaducts is being completed. The full cost was estimated at 150 million crowns. Voluntary work, valued at more than 50 million crowns, performed by the youth will reduce the cost to the state by one-third.

PLANES FURNISHED BY THE USSR -- Rude Pravo, No 230, 30 Sep 49

In accordance with an agreement, signed in August at Moscow, one of the eight twin-engine aircraft (Il-12 type) purchased by Czechoslovakia has arrived from the Soviet Union. The new aircraft, which the Czechoslovak Airlines will use for flights abroad, are adaptable to Czechoslovak conditions of transport. Experience gained by the Soviet crews has been utilized in the construction of the aircraft.

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